Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault



Annual Report July 2001-June 2002

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Susan Parkes, Vice Chair, Department of Law
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Dorothy Larson, Public Member
Janna Stewart, Public Member
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Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Established within the Department of Public Safety, the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault plans and coordinates services to victims and families of domestic violence and sexual assault as well as to the perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault.

The Council, in coordination with authorities in the field of domestic violence and sexual assault, develops, implements, maintains, and monitors crisis-intervention and prevention programs. This coordination includes providing emergency safe shelter, counseling, education/outreach services, and technical assistance to programs. The Council also works cooperatively with the Departments of Law, Education and Early Development, Public Safety, Health and Social Services and other state agencies and community groups who are addressing the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault. The Council oversees, monitors, and coordinates existing services and develops expanded services and programs to meet the needs of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other violent crimes.

The Council provides funding to 21 victim-services programs and to 11 batterers-intervention programs in Alaska. Victim-service programs provide a full range of services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and their families. Programs provide 24-hour emergency support, safe shelter, childcare, counseling, employment information, housing information, legal information, long-range safety planning and accompaniment to medical care. Programs also work within their communities to affect systemic change for responding to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. Batterers-intervention programs provide intervention that is focused on victim safety and batterer accountability. These community-based and prison programs work in conjunction with the court system, adult probation and parole, as well as victim-services agencies within their area.

The Council continues to work with victim's advocates, law enforcement, prosecution, corrections, batterers-intervention program staff, and other important community agencies. Our objective is to increase reporting and safety for victims, training of all those involved in the community response to victims of both sexual assault and domestic violence, and to hold batterers accountable for their violence. As well as providing funding for these comprehensive programs throughout the state, the Council has taken a lead role in the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act, and a number of other statewide coordination and strategic planning efforts.

Additional work needs to be done to provide victims with the long-term support that enables them to build a life outside of the violent relationship and to provide increased services to children who are victims of sexual and physical abuse or who witness violence within their homes. Providing the necessary services to victims and working within the system to affect these changes are the most important aspects of the Council's work.

MISSIONS AND MEASURES

Missions and measures have been identified by the legislature that will track the accomplishments of the Council and its funded programs. These measures became effective on July 1, 2000 and will be reported on each legislative session. These missions and measures are:

MISSION

The mission of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is to reduce the causes and incidence and to alleviate the effects of domestic violence and sexual assault.

MEASURES

- The percentage of continuing clients
- The percentage of the Council's budget spent on prevention
- The cost of shelter per night
- The amount spent for and the percentage reduction in domestic violence and sexual assault compared to the amount spent for that purpose last year
- The incidence of reported domestic violence and sexual assault cases
- The number of homicides from domestic violence and sexual assault

FY 2002 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The following are just a few of the highlights reflected in the quarterly reports CDVSA funded programs submit. They represent only a small portion of the types of events, projects, prevention and community coordination projects that programs provide everyday within their community.

- One local program was able to complete payment on a 15-passenger van thanks to the largest single donation in the program's history from a local couple, combined with a matching grant from Kraft Foods
- A generous contribution from BP allowed one shelter to refurnish its intake and children's playrooms
- Alaska artist Barbara Lavalle personalized her prints to help one program raise funds at its annual auction
- Eighteen local houses of worship signed on to a program's "Pledge Against Domestic Violence" which asked the congregation to provide safety for victims, hold the batterer accountable and help the victim mourn the loss of the relationship if it cannot be salvaged
- One local program became involved in the Coast Guard's "Welcome Aboard" semi-annual presentation series for new arrivals to the base

- Safe and Fear-Free Environment (SAFE) in Dillingham celebrated its 20th anniversary
- One local program created and sponsored the KISS Conferences (Keeping it Safe & Sober) to improve response to domestic violence and sexual assault where alcohol is a factor
- Construction on a shelter in Homer was completed
- Many programs participated in October events for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, including rallies, presentations, Purple Ribbon campaigns and information booths
- Alaska Family Resource Center (AFRC) changed its name from Valley Women's Resource Center and streamlined its client intake process while broadening its approach to service delivery
- One program established the DIAL 911 Cell Phone loaner program
- One program raised \$3500 at its 2nd Annual Good Karma Tattoo Fundraiser

FY 2003 GOALS

The Council will continue to provide leadership on the issues of sexual assault and domestic violence in the upcoming fiscal year. A few specific projects that will be focused on include:

- Implementation of statewide data collection system
- Continue to certify new batterers intervention programs throughout the state
- Continue implementation of Alaska's statewide sexual assault strategic plan
- Increase community awareness and understanding of domestic violence and sexual assault
- Develop, implement, maintain and monitor domestic violence and sexual assault and crisis intervention and batterer's intervention programs
- Coordinate with the Departments of Law, Education, Public Safety, Health and Social Services and other state agencies and community groups dealing with domestic violence and sexual assault and provide technical assistance as required

FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCES

Family Violence Prevention Services Act

The Family Violence Prevention Services Act (FVPSA) provides federal funding to all states. This funding is used to fund domestic violence programs throughout Alaska. All programs receiving these grants provide shelter and/or related assistance to victims of domestic violence and their children. These programs operate shelter facilities that are staffed around the clock and provide a full spectrum of services. These services include basic food and immediate shelter, crisis intervention, counseling and medical/legal/personal advocacy.

Victims of Crime Act

The Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA) authorizes financial compensation for victims of crime and financial support to state and local agencies that provide services to crime victims. This fund is an U.S. Treasury account generated entirely by the fines and penalties levied against criminals convicted of federal crimes. As such, the amount available in this fund can vary greatly from year to year. To assist in planning for these variances, the Council spreads the grant amount over a period of three years to provide a more stable continuation of funding for programs.

The Council awards the majority of this funding directly to programs that provide services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and other violent crimes. In addition to funding programs, a portion of this grant is used to fund a Victim Services Coordinator position with the Department of Corrections. This position will work to enhance services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and all other violent crimes in the state.

Sexual Assault Prevention

The Council receives sexual assault prevention funds each year from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. These funds are part of a larger grant that is administered by Alaska's Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health. These funds have been utilized for programs that provide prevention education to teens, the creation of public-service announcements, and maintaining a staff position dedicated to addressing the issues of sexual assault.

Violence Against Women Act

In 1994, Congress passed the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), which serves to improve the national response to domestic violence and sexual assault. VAWA combines a series of federal sanctions and initiatives as well as national, state, and local resources to improve the response to crimes against women. These funds are delineated to four specific areas: prosecution, law enforcement, victim services and discretionary. In April 1995, Governor Knowles designated the Council as the lead agency for the coordination and management of the VAWA funds for the State of Alaska.

To accomplish this mission, a statewide Violence Against Women Planning and Implementation Committee was created. The Committee's membership reflects the mandatory systems of the act and includes representatives from the Alaska Court system, Departments of Corrections, Health and Social Services, Law, Public Safety, the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Alaska Judicial Council, and Violence Against Indian Women grantee.

This committee meets quarterly to develop the annual plan for VAWA funding and to address any difficulties or needs identified in the state. The Committee submits an annual plan to the Federal VAWA office for approval. The Council is also responsible for distributing and monitoring the fiscal components of all the projects. Since these are federal funds there are often two consecutive years being implemented simultaneously. Funding was used for the following projects in FY 2002.

Victim Services

- Continued Legal Advocacy Project, which provides legal assistance to battered women throughout Alaska
- Continued training of domestic violence advocates in the area of legal advocacy
- Continued implementation of a pro bono referral project to improve access to legal representation for victims
- Providing legal advocacy to battered, immigrant women with outreach to rural and bush communities
- Increased access to court translators within the legal system
- Development of a network of qualified translators to be available to victims when they must appear in court

Prosecution

Provided annual training for prosecutors and paralegals

- Improved capabilities for presenting evidence in court through the purchase of equipment
- Development of written guidelines for paralegal work in cases involving violence against women
- Translation/printing of domestic violence safety plan, sexual assault and victim's rights brochures into Spanish

Law Enforcement

- Training of law enforcement officers on domestic violence and sexual assault, investigation issues and determining primary aggressor
- Implementation of procedures for ensuring documentation of all domestic violence injuries and related evidence
- Continued funding for Program Coordinator positions to coordinate training and other violence-against-women activities

Court

- Continued training of judicial officers and employees on domestic violence
- Funding of language interpretation services to participants in restraining order hearings

Discretionary

Provide startup costs in expanding the existing VINE system to include notification of hearings and court proceedings

- Funding to evaluate VAWA projects and impact
- Funding for the Legal Advocacy Project Pro Bono Program Information & Referral Program and the Immigration & Refugee Services Program

Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization

The Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grant (RDVCV) implements certain provisions of the Violence Against Women Act. The program provides a unique opportunity for law enforcement and prosecution agencies, the courts and non-governmental victim services agencies, community organizations, businesses in rural communities and Indian tribes to collaborate in creating protocols and strategies tailored specifically to meet the needs of rural populations.

In Alaska, this grant has provided for several projects that have been implemented over the past two years. In 1998, the Interdepartmental Child Sexual Abuse Agreement was revised and expanded to include all forms of child abuse. The Division of Family and Youth Services rewrote their child abuse and neglect screening protocols to include screening and responding to domestic violence. This project has been successfully completed.

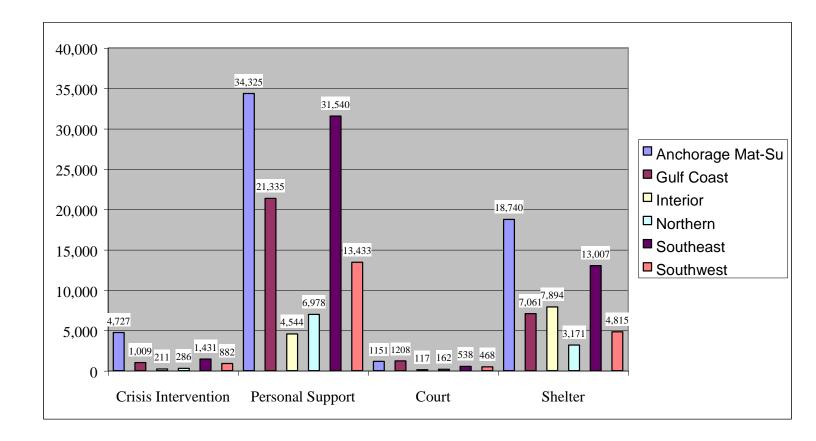
There were originally 11 regional training's scheduled for a projected 800 participants. However, that number was expanded to 15, with almost 1600 participants, because of the high level of commitment on the part of professionals, as well as the significant need for such training. Participants included victim advocates, local police, prosecutors, social workers, Indian Child Welfare workers, health providers and a number of community members. These trainings provided information on domestic violence, its impact on children, effective intervention strategies and the creation of interdisciplinary teams.

Grants to Encourage Mandatory Arrests

The Grants to Encourage Arrests Policies Program (GTEA) is also a component of the Violence Against Women Act. This grant focuses on the development and implementation of laws, policies, and protocols that encourage or mandate the arrest of domestic violence offenders. The criteria for this are based on probable cause, or violation of a protective order. Projects identified for the current grant include a misdemeanor domestic violence offender pilot-probation project. This project tracked batterers in compliance with sentencing in Palmer. Additionally, volunteer legal advocates have been trained and placed in district attorney offices statewide. Approximately 200 Polaroid cameras were purchased for local and state law enforcement officers. In addition, nine regional Native non-profit corporations provided training for all Village Public Safety Officers, and an automated system for tracking protective orders was developed.

STATISTICS

CDVSA Services by Region



Service Definitions

<u>Crisis Intervention</u>: The number of in-person and telephonic support contacts given to women and children in an immediate crisis situation.

<u>Personal Support</u>: The number of in-person and telephonic support contacts given to women and children.

<u>Court</u>: The number of times an advocate assisted a woman in obtaining a protective order (help filling out forms, court accompaniment)

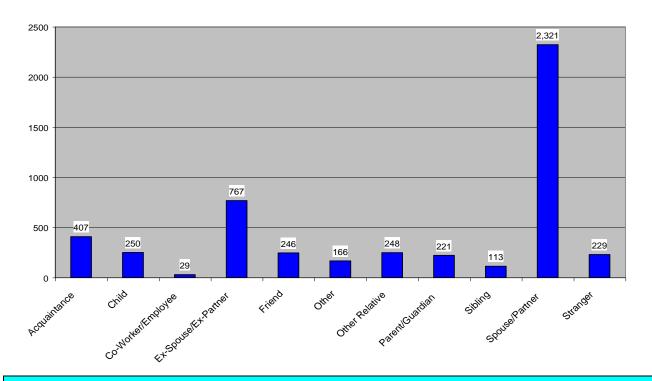
Shelter: The number of safe shelter nights provided to women and children

Clients Served by Region

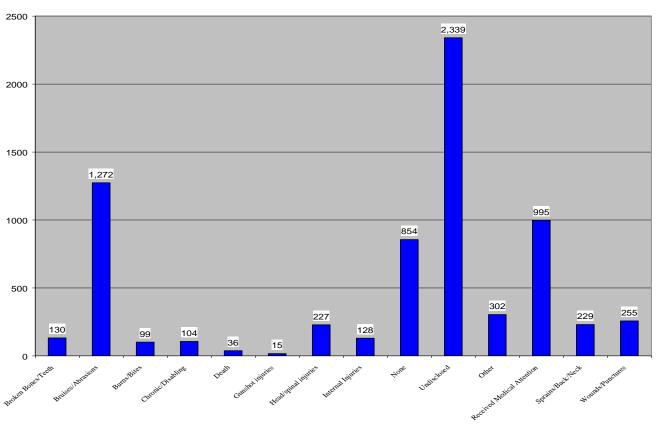
Minor Child – child accompanying adult • Victim – all ages • Client Adult – adult accompanying victim of any age

Primary Issues	Anchorage Mat-Su	Gulf Coast	Interior	Northern	Southeast	Southwest	Totals
Domestic Violence							
Client	445	155	122	89	197	149	1157
Minor Child	1427	602	401	175	480	242	3327
Victim	18	41	10	14	39	32	154
Total	1890	798	533	278	716	424	4638
Sexual Assault							
Client	17	4	2	3	5	6	37
Minor Child	339	34	43	28	47	69	560
Victim	108	12	3	0	10	4	137
Total	644	73	65	43	113	134	1072
Child Sexual Assault							
Client	37	2	0	0	7	10	56
Minor Child	124	7	5	10	21	60	227
Victim	297	16	3	2	9	45	372
Total	458	25	8	12	37	115	655
Incest							
Client	6	4	0	0	5	0	15
Minor Child	93	8	1	4	18	1	125
Victim	55	9	1	0	4	0	69
Total	154	21	2	4	27	1	209
Crisis Intervention							
Client	5	1	0	0	0	34	40
Minor Child	167	7	2	6	11	32	225
Victim	88	1	1	3	2	19	114
Total	260	9	3	9	13	85	379
REGION TOTALS	3,406	926	611	346	906	759	6,953

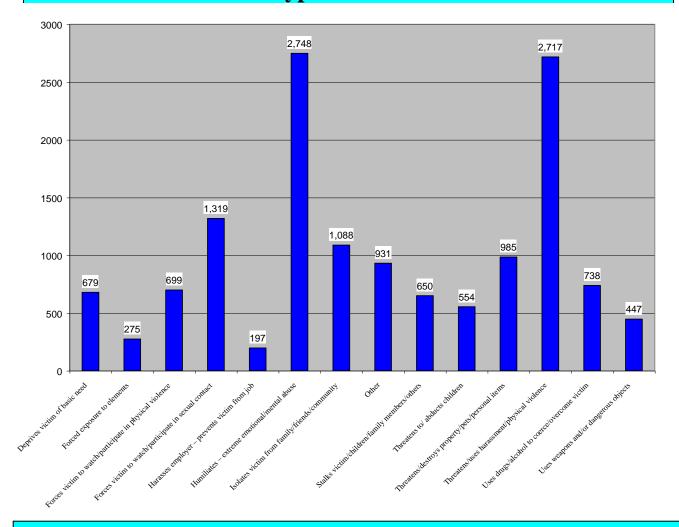
Relationship of Victim to Perpetrator



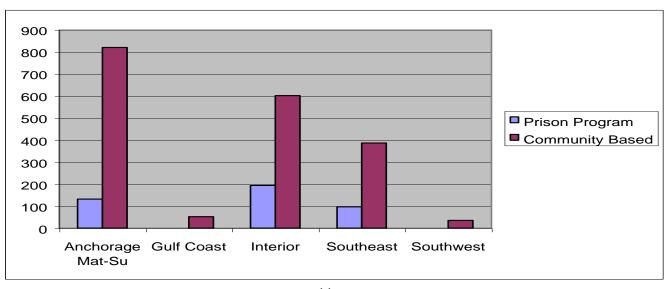
Type of Physical Injury







Perpetrator Incident by Region



Funded Victim Services Programs

Anchorage

Abused Women's Aid in Crisis

100 West 13th Avenue Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: 279-9581 Fax: 279-7244 www.awaic.org Bed Capacity: 52

Alaska Women's Resource Center

610 C Street, Suite 2A Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: 276-0528 Fax: 279-6754

Bed Capacity: No shelter

Standing Together Against Rape

1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 230 Anchorage, AK 99503

Phone: 276-7279 Fax: 278-9983 www.star.ak.org

Bed Capacity: No shelter

Victims for Justice

1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 101

Anchorage, AK 99503

Phone: 278-0977 Fax: 258-0740

www.victimsforjustice.org Bed Capacity: No shelter

Barrow

Arctic Women in Crisis

P.O. Box 69

Barrow, AK 99723 Phone: 852-0261 Fax: 852-2474 Bed Capacity: 8

Bethel

Tundra Women's Coalition

P.O. Box 2029 Bethel, AK 99559 Phone: 543-3455 Fax: 543-3752

www.twcpeace.org
Bed Capacity: 17

Cordova

Cordova Family Resource Center

P.O. Box 863

Cordova, AK 99574 Phone: 424-5674 Fax: 424-5673

Bed Capacity: No shelter

Dillingham

Safe and Fear-Free Environment

P.O. Box 94

Dillingham, AK 99576

Phone: 842-2320 Fax: 842-2198 Bed Capacity: 21

Emmonak

Emmonak Women's Shelter

P.O. Box 207

Emmonak, AK 99581 Phone: 949-1434 Fax: 949-1718

Bed Capacity: 9

Fairbanks

Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living

717 9th Avenue Fairbanks, AK 99701 Phone: 452-2293

Fax: 452-2613 Bed Capacity: 46

Homer

South Peninsula Women's Service 3776 Lake Street, Suite 100

Homer, AK 99603 Phone: 235-7713 Fax: 235-2733

Bed Capacity: building shelter

Juneau

Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies

P.O. Box 20809 Juneau, AK 99802 Phone: 586-6623 Fax: 586-2479

www.juneau.com/aware

Bed Capacity: 48

Kenai/Soldotna

Kenai/Soldotna Women's Resource and Crisis

Center

325 South Spruce Street

Kenai, AK 99611 Phone: 283-9479 Fax: 283-5844

www.alaska.net/~wrcc Bed Capacity: 32

Ketchikan

Women in Safe Homes

P.O. Box 6552

Ketchikan, AK 99901

Phone: 225-0202 Fax: 225-2472 www.wishorca.org Bed Capacity: 25

Kodiak

Kodiak Women's Resource and Crisis Center

P.O. Box 2122 Kodiak, AK 99615 Phone: 486-6171 Fax: 486-4264

www.peaceaction.org/kwrcc

Bed Capacity: 10

Nome

Bering Sea Women's Group

P.O. Box 1596 Nome, AK 99762 Phone: 443-5491 Fax: 443-3748 www.bswg.org Bed Capacity: 14

Palmer

Alaska Family Resource Center

403 South Alaska Street

Palmer, AK 99645 Phone: 746-4080 Fax: 746-1177 Bed Capacity: 20

Seward

Seaview Community Services

P.O. Box 1045 Seward, AK 99664 Phone: 224-5257 Fax: 224-7081

Bed Capacity: No shelter

Sitka

Sitkans Against Family Violence

P.O. Box 6136 Sitka, AK 99835 Phone: 747-3370 Fax: 747-3450 www.safv.net Bed Capacity: 25

Unalaska

Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault and Family

Violence P.O. Box 136 Unalaska, AK 99685 Phone: 581-1500

Fax: 581-4568
Bed Capacity: 4

Valdez

Advocates for Victims of Violence

P.O. Box 524 Valdez, AK 99686 Phone: 835-2980 Fax: 835-2980 www.alaska.net/~avv

Bed Capacity: 7

Funded Community Batterer's Intervention Programs

Anchorage

Abused Women's Aid in Crisis Male Awareness Program 100 West 13th Avenue Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 279-9581

Fax: 279-7244

www.awaic.org

Bed Capacity: 52

Cordova

Sound Alternatives Men's Non-Violence Program P.O. Box 160 Cordova, AK 99574

Phone: 424-8300 Fax: 424-8645

Fairbanks

Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living 717 9th Avenue Fairbanks, AK 99701 Phone: 452-2293

Fax: 452-2613

Homer

South Peninsula Women's Service Domestic Violence Intervention Program 3776 Lake Street, Suite 100 Homer, AK 99603

Phone: 235-7713 Fax: 235-2733

Juneau

Tongass Community Counseling Cetner 222 Seward Street Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: 586-3585

Fax: 586-3241

Ketchikan

Ketchikan Indian Corporation 2960 Tongass Avenue, Fifth Floor Ketchikan, AK 99901

Phone: 225-4061 Fax: 247-4067

www.kictribe.com/social_services

Palmer

Alaska Family Resource Center Family Violence Intervention Program 403 South Alaska Street Palmer, AK 99645 Phone: 746-4080

Phone: 746-4080 Fax: 746-1177

Sitka

Prevention & Treatment Service P.O. Box 1034 Sitka, AK 99835 Phone: 747-8994

Fax: 747-6801

Funded Prison Batterer's Intervention Programs

Fairbanks

Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living 717 9th Avenue Fairbanks, AK 99701

Phone: 452-2293 Fax: 452-2613

Juneau

Tongass Community Counseling Cetner 222 Seward Street Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: 586-3585

Fax: 586-3241

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Alaska Family Resource Center Family Violence Intervention Program 403 South Alaska Street Palmer, AK 99645

Phone: 746-4080 Fax: 746-1177